

Docket No. 17095CIPCON(AP)

Garst



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900
PATENT

DEC 07 2001

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Applicant: Garst, Michael E.

Group Art Unit: 1614

Serial No.: 09/903,954

Examiner: Fay, Z.

Filed: July 12, 2001

For: Combinations of Prostaglandins
and Brimonidine or Derivatives
Thereof

REPLY

Box Amendment-Non Fee
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This communication is in reply to the Examiner's Office Action of August 29, 2001. Claims 1-7 and 14-20 are currently pending in the application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected all the pending claims as allegedly unpatentable over Applicant's admission on pages 2-7 of the specification and Drug Therapy by Searle, and claims 21-27 over Yavitz and Woodward. These references are said to teach the use of prostaglandins and alpha-adrenergic agents individually for the treatment of glaucoma; the Examiner states that Yavitz describes neuroprotection of brimonidine, while Woodward describes the neuroprotective effects of certain prostaglandins. The Examiner therefore argues that one skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine the ingredients into a single composition, as presently claimed, since the prior art is said to teach that the individual ingredients may be used for the same purpose, and that the is therefore prima